

# THE COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS

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NATIONAL BUILDING MUSEUM  
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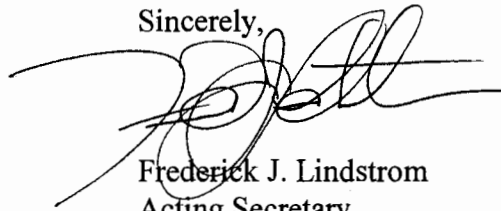
1 November 2004

Dear Mr. Jackson:

During its meeting of 21 October 2004, the Commission reviewed the proposed concept for the replacement of the Benning Branch Library located at 3935 Benning Road, NE near Minnesota Avenue. The initiative to upgrade or replace this and other branch libraries is strongly supported by the Commission. The members recommended that as the project develops, the design should become simpler and more unified. The chess program at this branch might be strengthened by placing permanent chess tables on the side porch, allowing the area to become truly active. While the Commission encourages further development of the through-site connection to the existing shopping area, the library should also have a strong, independent civic presence apart from that of the shopping center.

The Commission looks forward to the future review of this and other projects for the District of Columbia Public Libraries. Please submit additional information for review when available. The staff is always available to assist you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'F. Lindstrom', with a large, sweeping flourish extending to the left.

Frederick J. Lindstrom  
Acting Secretary

Mr. Richard L. Jackson  
Director, DC Public Libraries  
901 G Street, NW, Suite 400  
Washington, DC 20001

cc: Melanie Hennigan, Grimm and Parker  
Justin Fisher, HESS Construction